(c) whether Government propose to legalise by means of a constitutional amendment the assurance given by the Former Prime Minister Jawararlal Nehru regarding Hindi in non-Hindi speaking regions?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) The scheme for setting up Navodaya Vidyalayas envisages that most of the students admitted would have been taught prior to their admission to such Vidyalayas through the medium of the mother tongue or the regional language. Instruction will therefore be provided through the same medium upto class VII or VIII, during which time intensive teaching of Hindi/English, both as language subjects and co-media, will be undertaken. Thereafter, the common medium would be Hindi/English in all Navodaya Vidyalayas. An important feature of the Scheme is the migration of a given percentage of students from one Navodaya Vidyalaya to another located in a different language area, after pupils complete class VIII. This feature requires the adoption of common media throughout the country in the Navodaya Vidyalaya system.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Central Government.

Ancient monuments under the control of ASI

1473. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the steps Government propose to take to present the grabbing of ancient mounments which are under the control of Archaeological Survey of India, by unscrupulous persons and bodies in different parts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): Besides taking recourse to the provisions of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971, to present grabbing of ancient monuments under its control, the Archaeological Survey of India has taken steps for:—

(i) demarcating and fencing the protected area of ancient monuments wherever required;

(ii) augmenting the strength of staff posted at the ancient monuments and ensuring effecting watch & ward;

(iii) udertaking of periodic inspection of monuments; and

(iv) enlisting the help of local administration.

States to share railway projects financially

1474. SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that railways have asked the State Governments to share the burden of expenditure in execution of railway projects; and

(b) if so, the names of the States which have responded favourably to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) It has been suggested to State Governments asking for provision of Mass Rapid Transit System in their cities to agree to a "Consortium approach" for funding of such projects.

(b) Maharashtra State Government has agreed to bear 67 per cent of the cost in case of Mankhurd-Belapur Line.

Madras Rapid Transit System Project

1475. SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway have asked the Tamil Nadu Government to share the expenditure of MRTS Project in Madras; and